WHAT MR. MURPHY TEACHES

An Illustration of the Power of Love in Bringing Home a Wayward Daughter.

Meeting at Meridian-Street Church-The Temperance Orator Describes the Modern Prodigal Son-Interest Increasing.

An audience of the church-going class of people mearly filled the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon to hear Francis Murphy. The choir has greatly increased in numbers, and improves in work; and it gave a spirited rendering of several sacred songs. Mr. Murphy at the beginning announced that his son, J. E. Murphy, expected to join him here early in the week, and continued to relate that in 1881 this young man carried on a great movement in the city of Belfast, Ireland, and in fifteen days 15,000 people enrolled their names as total abstainers, while public-house property went down in value 100 per cent. Young Murphy remained in Ireland until 125,000 people had signed the pledge in one year. The speaker then referred to the strong feeling of brotherhood among the Masons and members of other societies, and said that Christian people should learn from them that the feeling of brotherhood is the strongest tie that binds men together, and the strongest tie by which they

can be rescued from the power of the world. Mr. Murphy illustrated the universal triumph of love over the heart in several touching anecdotes, among which was that of a mother in New York, who had a dearly beloved daughter, who left her home in a fit of waywardness to become a wanderer in society. The poor mother had no knowledge where the child could be found, and one night, as she paced her lonesome chamber, she reflected: "If I only could get my eyes on my child, I would never let her leave me again; I would be able to keep her forever!" The idea occurred to her, as she revolved plan after plan in her mind, that if she only could put her own photograph in the room of the ferry where all the passengers landed from Brooklyn, it might be that the girl would come among the crowd, and, seeing it, perchance would repent her deed and come home. She got permission and placed her picture upon that wall. Day after day the harrying throng came and went, and it remained unbeeded, but one dark, stormy night there passed that child, and her eye was caught by the picture on the wall of the great room. She drew near to see, and behold it was the sweet face of her mother, just as she used to look, only the lines of trouble there from a daughte 's loss. The sinful life of the girl crowded memories on her soul like a strange dream, and she fell to weeping piteously. She resolved to go to her mother that night. It was then very late, but she started rapidly on her journey back, and reached her mother's house. The door she found unlatched. She crept softly in. Her mother was eleeping in the second room. She must speak

deave the door open to-night?" "My child! Is it you, my darling? Yes; the door was open. It has been left open at night a very long time now.' "Why do you do it, mother?"

to her then. She could not wait. She waked

her gently and asked: "Mother, why did you

"I did it hoping that you might some time return, and you have, my child." It was this character of Christly love that Mr. Murphy dwelt upon, and his hearers were often weeping under the pathetic force of his illustrations. At the close of the address, there was evidenced a much stronger interest in this movement than has yet been shown. as several in the audience arose and expressed themselves as being benefited by the orator's appeals. A fine-looking man by the name of Reynolds said he had been in this city for thirty-five years and while he had not led a dis-sipated life he had never done anything whatever for God. He felt convicted for this, and wanted to say publicly that hereafter he proposed to labor for the cause of Christianity. His brother said he, too, had signed the pledge. He had need of it, and meant, by God's power, to keep it. The audience was deeply affected by the stories of these two men and of their families, joy at their resolution. Major Crook and Dr. Lucas then talked briefly of their approval of the work and experience in it. the latter making a very eloquent appeal to Christians to fall in line and push on the movement to victory.

There was a forcible manifestation of public Interest in this temperance revival at the Meridian-street Methodist Church last night. The audience was greater than any event had brought to that edifice for several years. Between twelve and fourteen hundred people were crowded into the house, and over half as many more were turned away from the doors. Inside the church the people stood in

The Interest Widening.

the aisles, crowded the passage-way in front for the barest peep into the auditorium itself, and were perched upon the very railings of the altar and choir seats. A number even got places in the private spiral stairway to the back of the pulpit. The room became quite warm from the presence of such a multitude, and hats and handkerchiefs were in frequent demand to subdue perspiration. When Dr. Cieveland arose, the audience immediately became quiet, and listened to him with attention, frequently applauding his eloquent talk. He spoke of Mr. Murphy as a man who was a most rare illustration of Christ-like love and manliness. All that he would ask was: "Are you a man? Christ died for you. Your soul is priceless. Heaven longs for you. Men

and angels are praying for you. Come to God and be reconciled."

Mr. Marphy, on coming forward, thanked the people for the great testimony of numbers to their belief in the necessity of the revival for which he worked. He then began to speak about "An Indianapolis Prodigal." It was an old subject, this of intemperance, he said. It had been discussed by business men when they met on our streets, at the fireside, in the factory, the shop and the legislative hall. The church had had its turn at it, the school and the prison. "To the last," he contimed, "we had given great sums to break the etrength of the drink curse, by breaking the men who had fallen under it. In the prison men had been confined, when captured, until such time as society saw fit to let them out. Hardly a protest had been uttered even when we discovered that men have been treated cruelly. In these times charity itself had gotten down to a point of fine science, and everywhere there was a cry for 'Machinery!' 'Machinery!' 'Machinery!' 'Machinery!' ery! But I say to you to-night, that the greatest danger in this world of rending the hearts of humanity to shreds lies in social machinery. [Great applause.] And the most terrific peril haunts the organizations with which you say you can save men. On every hand men are per-Ishing with hunger while we search their pedigrees on a scientific basis to see if they are worthy of food. [Laughter.] For God's sake come to yourselves and use a little common sense about these things. [Applause.] I maintain that the only remedy that can be brought against this great evil is the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the sooner the church and the world discovers that truth, the sooner they will succeed in this work. It cannot be done before. It cannot be done on any other plan. I do not mean to underrate the honesty and good intentions of our politicians. I believe that, of all the world, America has the cleanest-handed, most honorable public officers that have ever served the people of any country. [Applause.] And you should not allow your sons, as I have heard them, to talk about every man having his price, and speak with utter loss of respect for those in high office. It is foolish, and it is a shame. [Ap-"Now this predigal I am going to tell about

was a nice boy. He did not get up in the morning and do any small chores about his homenot he. He was altogether too nice for that, [laughter] and he has lots of brothers in Indianapolis this minute. [Laughter.] He wore a tailor-made suit, with stand-up collar. and a nice little cane; and his finger pails were like little tortoise shells. [Laughter.] He was something of a dude, you see. He was very fond of the ladies, and was rather indifferent about what hours he kept. His old father was as regular as a chronometer. He arose early in the morning and was down to business. He always had to open the office himself though. Willie couldn't do it. [Laughter.] One morning he asked at breakfast: 'Mother, where is

"'Not up yot, dear,' she replied.
"'What time did he get in last night?"

"'Oh, he was home early.' [Laughter.] "Do you wonder a boy sticks to his mother after that kind of treatment? [Laughter.] Well, he was not in early enough to suit me.' the father retorted, 'and he will have to change his habits in these matters. I shall have a talk with him.' That poor mother! She knew that father had not even suspected all yet! Late into the lonely hours of night she had sat up waiting for that boy. When he came she made him act quietly, and said, 'Will, your where you have been to-night, and, O my | time!

son, if he did it would break his heart! I have long known all, and you do not know the grief it has caused me. Won't you try, my son, to stop these evil companionships and ways, for your father's sake, for my sake?"
"I didnen know I—I—wuzh out very late,

"'Of course you were.'
"'Well, I—I'll—I musht come in early nexsht time.' [Laughter.] "I hope you will, my son. Good night. Be still.' And the poor mother goes off to her chamber to weep bitter tears in secret over her boy. Well, the young man continued in this way for some time, till one day his father had the carriage in use to go to his farm and look at the stock, and the boy wanted it to take his — out with him [with a significant nod]. [Laughter.] And he passed angry words with his father, on his return about it, and the good old man, who till now had been patient of everything his boy did, rebuked him for his bad habits and the dreadful hours he was keeping, and said it would ruin his future. The boy grew passionate and declared he would leave his home. Nothing could dissuade him, and so the next day, after talking the matter over it, was decided by his parents he should go, and his father called him into the sitting-room, and went to his chest, got his strong box, and, taking out a large roll of greenbacks, handed it to him and said: 'My son, as you are to go now, I want you to take this to give you a good start, and be careful my dear son, how you spend it.' Here the old man's voice faltered and he placed his arm on the boys shoulder and wept. [Weeping. | And the boys loving mother hastened to make ready a large trunk full of everything she could think of. Oh, such a parting as she had with that boy, and still he said, 'I will go.' And as he was driven away in the back to the train, he saw her, at the last turn of the carriage way, waving her white handkerchief to him a last farewell. The father, as he rode with him to the station, said: 'Now, my son, though I may never see you again,' and his voice broke again; 'I want to say that my house is always open and is your home, if only you return, and everything is yours that I have.' And as the boy, silent and with a firm determination in his face, placed his foot on the step of the car, he felt a slight pull at his coat, and looking round, saw his father behind him, with tears running down his face, and he said: 'My son! My son! I just wanted to see your face once more before you went,' and he took his arm and looked earnestly, with fond love, into his eyes. The boy returned it with a cold stare. Poor man! He turned away, shaken with grief, and hid his face in his hands and wept. The train pulled out and rolled away westward rapidly. That boy went straight to San Francisco. Here, as he went up to register at the hotel he met a fine gentleman with one glass eye [laughter], elegantly dressed. asked him about all the Indianapolis folks, whether he knew Mr. Barnes and Col. Ray and -and-everybody else. Oh yes, he knew them all. Well, now, he must come right out and [laughter] and nothing would drink but brandy, and

have a drink. The water here was ruinous best at that. He had something special he wanted him to try. He was introduced to a number of other fine gentlemen [laughter], and they all drank until they each had about three or four glasses of that special article [laughter]. which, for some of them, was one or two overbalance. [Laughter.] And the next day he was taken by his friend to the most fashionable club in the city and introduced to more nice gentlemen [laughter], and they showed him the little things they had there to play with [laughter], and he soon learned the art of disposing of that roll of bank bills in the most fashionable manner. [Laughter.] He had taken his social glass, and now it was not glasses, but barrels, he had to fight. Soon his money, his clothes even were

all gone-consumed in that liquid fire. "One day he started out to find work. The only man that would talk with him on the subject was a farmer, who said he had lots pigs he might herd if wanted to undertake the business. He was glad of the opportunity, and went out with him that night to the country. He had to lay down with the hogs in the pen, and then he got one big fellow against his back to keep the warmth of life in him. [Laughter.] In the morning, after brushing off the hairs [laughter], and munching some raw corn off the cob. for his breakfast [laughter] he about made up his mind he had enough of this life, and would 'arise and go to his father.' [Laugter.] And he did. He got assistance to go home somehow, and on his arrival there what reception did he find? Reproach? Not a word! When he asked his mother to forgive him, she replied she had 'nothing to forgive.' And his father sent the girls up-stairs to dress him in the best suit in the house. [Laughter.] And then he sent Katie for 'that big gold ring in my chest' to put on his finger, 'because,' he said, 'the neighbors will be here soon to see him, and we want them to think Will has been making lots of money, don't we, son? Ha, ha!' [Laughter.] Then they had a great feast, and fiddles were in requisition [laughter], and there was dancing and joy in that house, for the long-lost child was returned. This is the love of God. Who will accept of it to-night, and gain freedom everlasting through

Jesus Christ, our Lord?" At the call to sign the pleage, nearly half the audience commenced a movement toward the table before the altar, on which were the pledges. and it is thought that about that many signed. The orator seemed to have the most complete control over his audience, throughout. There will be meetings this afternoon and evening at the Y. M. C. A. Hall, the first occuring at 3 and the latter at 7:30 o'clock.

FUN THAT IS MADE TO ORDER.

The Trials and Tribulations That Surround the Professional Humorists.

Mr. Melville D. Landon, better known as "Eli Perkins," who was among General Harrison's visitors last week, lectured at the little town of Dana, near the Illinois line, a day or two after the General's hunting trip to that vicinity. In talking over his experience with a Journal reporter he remarked that the general public had very little idea of the trials and tribulations of a professional humorous lecturer. "Most people," he said, "have an idea that all that is necessary is to write out a lecture, make oneself reasonably familiar with it, and fire it off at such audiences as can be induced to present themselves as targets for the lecturer. Such a plan might answer for a sermon or a serious discourse, although I should be very much inclined to doubt its acceptance in different localities; but when it comes to addresses that are only intended to amuse, such a plan would never answer in the

"The jokes that tickle the fancy of auditors in one section fall flat as pancakes in another. and the man who started out with the idea that he could amuse audiences from Maine to California with the same lecture would be brought in on a shutter. Human nature is not the same everywhere, despite a good many assertions to the contrary. Some localities have no more appreciation of a pun than they have of the category of the infinite, and others look upon humorous exaggeration a good deal more coldly than they do on plain, ordinary, serious, common everyday lying. The only way to find out what they do want and what they don't want is to try them, and that is the plan I have adopted. I have a kind of an olla podrida of nonsense from which I can make selections, and when I begin to talk I start with a certain class of fun, and if it takes I make a mental note of it and charge myself with an injunction to dish out some more of the same kind later. If it falls flat I sink that particular kind for the balance of the evening, and, in either case, proceed to experiment with a different variety. When I get my audience sized up, as it were, and know what sort of material will affect their risibles. I feel at home to some extent and can get along comfortably, but you can imagine the feelings of a lecturer who stands like an elephant in a show, poking out his trunk for the gingerbread of applause, or the apple of a smile. I pledge you my word I have talked for fifteen minutes and reeled off what I considered my best material in my most engaging way, without disturbing a muscle in the faces of an audience, and the countenances in front of me would look as fixed and unrelenting as the head of a stone dog on a

"Then perpaps a little side remark would break up the combination and in a second the crowd that looked so grim and forbidding before would thaw out and smile audibly and enthusiastically. But imagine the feelings of the man who stands by the table with no friend near him but the water pitcher, while this prothere are other things than bad news that will turn a man's hair white in a single night."

Will Need to Write a Book.

Pittsburg Dispatch. The report that President Cleveland will send in a special message claiming that civil-service reform has been partially enforced under his administration, creates an expectation that the second message will have to be spun out to a greater length than the first one, before that interesting point is fully demonstrated.

WHAT's the use sitting all day in the bouse with a bad cold or backing cough when Dr. father does not know how late you are, and | Bull's Cough Syrup will cure you in a short MINOR CITY NEWS.

To-Day's Doings. FRANCIS MURPHY MEETINGS-Y. M. C. A. Hall; afternoon, 3 o'clock, and evening, 7:30 o'clock. BOARD OF ALDERMEN-Regular meeting even-GRAND OPERA-HOUSE-"Zig-Zag"-Evening.

afternoon and evening. BATTLE OF ATLANTA CYCLORAMA-Market street, between Illinois and Tennessee streets, day

PARK THEATER-Elorence Bindley as "Dot,"

and evening. Personal and Society. The Presbyterian ministers will meet this morning at the Second Presbyterian Church. The Right Reverend Dr. G. F. Seymour, bishop of Springfield, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Pierce.

Mr. Bert Updegraff, of the Grand Hotel clerical force, who has been seriously ill with bilions fever, is recovering slowly.

The regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Young Men's Christian Association occurs to-day at 2:30, sharp, at the build-ing of the association. Very important matters demand a full attendance.

Ex-Treasury Inspector Ryan, of this city, and

Gavitt, of Evansville, have been summoned to Washington to testify before a congressional committee in an investigation of alleged abuses connected with the Alaska seal fisheries. The many friends of Mrs. Grace D. Levering will be glad to learn of her success in Denver. Aside from singing in the churches, she holds a position in the university, and is a great favorite in concert. During a recent trip to fulfill a concert engagement at Colorado Springs she was on a train that collided with another. Several lives were lost, and nearly all of the cars

were demolished. Fortunately, Mrs. Levering

was in the rear car and escaped with a few

A unique feature of the entertainment to be given by the Ladies' Aid Society of the Centralavenue M. E. Church on Wednesday evening next will be the organ rendition of the Tannhauser March by Mr. W. D. Cooper, the superintend-ent of the Sunday-school of the church, and the overture to "William Tell" by Mr. John Reagan. Neither of these gentlemen is regarded as a musical prodigy, but they are said to render these particular numbers of classic music most

effectively.

Miss Lizzie Jones gave a Harrison supper Friday night on the result of the election ... Miss Carrie Skelton visited friends at Indianapolis over Sunday. ...Mrs. Anna Marvin, of Frankfort, visited her parents here last Sunday...Miss Maud Spencer, of Hamilton, O., is visiting Miss Sue Cory, and will remain over the holidays . . . Mr. and Mrs. Harl Mathews Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Busby and Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Moody were entertained at tea by Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Kelsey Tuesday evening ... About thirty associates of Miss Vickie Adler surprised her at her home Monday evening, it being her fifecenth birthday. Refreshments were served and a good time had...Mrs. F. M. Busby, Mrs. T. B. Dicks and Mrs. John Busby visited friends at Shelbyville...Miss Edith Pretzhold, of Cincinnati, visited friends here Monday and Tuesday....
Mrs. McMannis visited Indianapolis friends last week Mrs. Orear and daughters Isa and Nannie, of Mt. Sterling, Ky., are visiting friends here Miss Dosie Shirly visited here on Thursday ... Miss Rubie Harden, who is teaching school at Jamestown, spent Sunday at her home here ... Miss Nona Garner visited friends at Indianapolis on Thursday... R. Baird and wife, of Zionsville, spent Sunday with friends and relatives here... Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Rushton visited friends in Cincinnati the first of the week....Mrs. W. F. Moore is visiting relatives at Lafayette, Ind....Mrs. Mollie Davidson is visiting friends at Indianapolis....Mrs. B. Shulse left on Friday to visit friends at Watseka, Ill.

Industrial and Trade Notes. The Indianapolis snath and cradle-works, which have been idle for a couple of months, have resumed operations.

Indianapolis elevators on Saturday contained 500.251 bushels of grain, against 443,750 for the corresponding date of 1887.

During the first half of the fiscal year of the Board of Trade, which has just closed, there were five assessments on the death of members. The Armstrong Boiler Company is occupying its new building which, with the old one, covers nearly a half square of ground. The company is increasing its force.

Chandler & Taylor are building up a good trade in the two Virginias. They have made, recently, several shipments of their engines and sawmills into those States. It is one year to-day since the first manufact-

ory in Indianapolis was supplied with natural gas. Now over seventy use it, and new ones are being added almost daily. Geisendorff & Co. are this season shipping East an unusually large amount of woolen-goods, which they manufacture. Last week the company received a large order from Beston, Mass.,

and another from central New York. The reddish colored stone which the Citizens' Street-railroad Company is lining its tracks with on Washington street is shipped here from Dakots, and is quite expensive. The company has thus far received sixteen car-loads.

It is stated that but few manufacturing centers have been more benefited by the introduction of electric light than Indianapolis. Manufacturers here are furnishing many plants entire, including pulleys, shafting and highspeed engines.

One of the employes at the steel pulley and machine-works has devised an engine especially adapted to furnishing power for dynamo for an electric head-light on a locomotive. It is simple in its construction and can be manufactured at a comparatively small cost.

M. H. Escott, manager of the J. B. Alfree Company, who has been quite ill for some weeks, is rapidly recovering. Steps will soon be taken to enlarge the productive capacity of the manufacturing concern to meet an increasing demand for flouring-mills.

There has been an increased demand for brick and the makers are still providing for large deliveries. One brick-maker says that spring will find the supply for Indianapolis lighter than for some years past and good prices will likely be paid until new brick comes on to the market. The Reliance Edge-tool Company last week received an order from San Francisco for 500 dozen axes, to be delivered at the rate of 100

dozen a month. This company is steering clear of the trust which is being formed by the ax manufacturers of this country, as it is disposed to let well enough alone, says one of the com-With the large receipts of poultry and the light Eastern demand, the packers have been forced to place a large quantity of dressed poultry in

their cold storage-houses. Last week over 100,-

000 pounds were stored, and for some weeks to come the packing will be carried on. Seldom is much of this product placed on the market before March. Love Brothers, proprietors of the Indiana warp-mill, are much encouraged over the outlook for their busines. Within a few weeks their stock of warps accumulated to such an extent that it gave them some anxiety, but the last two weeks orders have begun to come in

several hundred warps which they had on hand, but now have orders ahead. Peter Routier has been awarded the contract to build two large stables for the Citizens' Streetrailroad Company. Each stable is to be 200 feet square and two stories high, and built of brick, with gravel roof. Work on the one located on North New Jersey street was commenced on Tuesday last, and in the five days ending Saturday night 400,000 brick were placed in the walls. Work on the stable to be located

on North Illinois street, near Twelfth street,

freely, and they have not only disposed of the

will not be commenced until next month. The Indianapolis flouring mills are running to about two-thirds of their capacity and will continue to do so, it is probable, until New Year's, when an improvement in business is looked for. Eastern markets are overstocked but it is thought that the next three weeks will greatly reduce the supply. When the boom struck wheat all over New England and in New York, merchants, anticipating an advance in the price of flour, stocked up heavily, and this sur-plus must be got out of the way before the de-

mand improves. E. C. Atkins & Co. are about to place on the market the largest saw, they claim, ever made in this country. It is eighty-eight inches in diameter, and of No. 12 gauge. The rim, being about eight inches in diameter, will admit of sawing forty-inch lumber without the use of double saws. During the past year this company has invested \$50,000 in a plant for the manufacture of band saws alone. Among the recent orders is one for twelve band saws for Australia, and a complete outfit of saws and belting for the Tacoma Mill Company, Washing-

ington Territory. The reorganization of the Lilly Varnish Company is of more importance to the manufacturing interests of Indianapolis than would appear at first sight. The capital stock is increased to \$100,000. Three men of large moneyed interests have been added to the company, Gen. Wm. Lilly, of Mauch Chunk, being one of the number. He has large mines in Pennsylvania and is associated with numerous other enterprises which are prosperous. The varnish company's works, which are the largest in the country, are to be enlarged, and it is expected that within the next three months the capacity of the works will be deabled. Prior to the death of J. O. D. Lilly the company had a large trade in sending goods to all parts of the United States and Canada. The directors for the first year are Gen. Wm. Lilly, Shelby Compton, of Columbus, Ga.: Al-

John M. Lilly, of Indianapolis. Charles Lilly was made president, A. G. Burdett vice-president, Shelby Compton secretary, and John M. Lilly treasurer.

HOW LAWS ARE MADE.

The Methods by Which Congressional Bills Are Originated, Killed or Passed.

Amos J. Cummings, in Louisville Courier-Journal, Those who think that a Congressman can shove a bill through both houses by simply applying his shoulder to the wheel of legislation are much mistaken. It is a job of infinite difficulty. Not one in two hundred passes both houses, and is signed by the President. It requires ripe practical experience to steer a bill through the tortuous channels of congressional legislation. Not one new member in five hundred can do it. The more brilliant he is the greater his chances of failure. A pilot like Timothy J. Campbell is worth far more than one like George William Curtis. The first is practical; the second theoretical. Campbell knows every hidden rock, each sand-bar, and all the varying currents of legislation. He will warp his ship and take in sail when necessary, and never fail to cast anchor at the critical moment. He has driven many a bill through Congress when it would have been stranded in committee with Curtis at the wheel. To illustrate the dangers of legislative navigation you have only to trace the course of a bill from its beginning to its end.

Most bills are drawn up by lawyers. A few constituents, however, write a Congressman detailing what they want, and leave the framing of their bills to him. There are blank forms for the work in the stationary room. An economic House taxes the Congressman 2 cents for each blank. Unless unanimous consent is given, and this can only be obtained by the courtesy of the Speaker, bills must be introduced on a Monday. The States are called in alphabetical order, and members arise in their turn and pass up their measures. The call can be suspended at any time by the House.

After its introduction the bill is temporarily at the mercy of the Speaker. He refers it to whatever committee he thinks proper. At times the members demur to the reference, and even appeal to the House. Occasionally, however, bills land in strange places. Through accident or design a judiciary bill may land in the committee on accoustics and ventilation, or in any other committee. It requires the unanimous consent of the House to shift it to its appropri-

Once in a committee a bill enters its first stage in life. Unless one of the committee takes a special interest in it, it may lie dormant throughout the session. The chairman can exercise a baleful influence. He may refer it to a sub-committee of its enemies, and without more ado it may be strangled. Even if it passes the sub-committee, its fate in full committee is problematical. Rarely is there a full attendance at its meetings. They are usually held at 10 A. M., and die at noon, when the House is called to order. This fluctuation in attendance frequently gives a chairman power to kill a bill. He may advance or delay it. If he desires to have it pass, and the lines in committee are nearly and securely drawn, he forces it to a vote when its friends are in a majority. If he wants it killed, he waits until they are in a minority. Measures of national importance are frequently squelched in this way. The shipping bounty bill is probably a case in point. Speaker Carlisle has been charged by the editor of the American Shipping Gazette with packing a committee against it. However this may be, certain it is that one member, disgruntled at the Speaker's appointment, has never attended a meeting of the committee. His absence left it a tie on the important question of bounties for Americanbuilt ships. More than once, owing to the absence of an opponent, were the friends of the measure in a majority. The bill remained untouched. It was finally throttled in the absence of one of its friends, who went to Wisconsin to look after his fences. At the same time and by the same vote the committee launched a freeship bill. That was about six months ago. Mark the sequel. In neither case has the report been made to the House. The effect upon the election was apparently discounted by withholding the reports. It is evident that committees at times are as free to defeat the will of the House as to carry it out. But for the absence of the Wiscensin member no report adverse to the shipping-bounty bill would have been ordered, and there would have been no report favoring the free-ship bill.

So much for the consideration of bills in committee. The power there is frequently almost arbitrary. Even the action of a committee may virtually be nullified by the member selected to make the report to the House. He may spring it into the House at an untoward moment or he may delay it until it is too late in the session to secure action. There are other hindrances, unless a committee is privileged. The privileged committees can make a report at any time. They include those on ways and means, on appropriations, on rules, on printing and on enrolled bills. All others report on Tuesdays. The Speaker calls them in their ratio of importance. The call can be passed over or suspended at any time by order of the

When a bill is reported it takes its place upon the calendar. It has now reached its second stage of existence. If it carries an appropriation or tinkers with the revenues, it must be considered in committee of the whole. It may remain upon the calendar to the end of the second session without coming before the House in regular order. Members in the good grace of the Speaker may secure recognition and ask unanimous recognition to consider it. Some one, however, is sure to object, unless the bill is either of the utmost insignificance or of vital | air and food passages, that Catarrh makes its strongimportance to the country. If it makes an appropriation half a dozen "watch-dogs" stand

ready to pounce upon it, Another chance for its consideration is on what is known as suspension day. This occurs on the first and third Mondays in each month. The first Monday rests with individuals and the third Monday with the committees. The last six days of the short session are also suspension days. On such days the Speaker usually recognizes four members, if the time allows-two Democrats and two Republicans. The member recognized moves to suspend the rules and take up the bill in which he is interested. If the motion is backed by a two-thirds vote the bill is taken up. The recognitions, however, except on days set apart for committees, are at the will of the Speaker. As soon as the House is orgamzed, experienced members rush to his desk and put their names on the suspension list. They are taken down by a clerk in the order of application. New members rarely get the tip. If they do get it, it seems that they more rarely get the recognition. The list is supposed to be of some service to those whose names appear upon it. Members periodically murmur and grumble over it. It appears to be an indefinite quantity in legislation. If it confers any special privileges the old members usually get them, and not the new ones.

There is a third chance for a bill. On any day except suspension day, if the unfinished business permits, after preliminary business, such as the reference of executive documents received the day before, the Speaker calls all committees in order for reports. At the end of an hour or less the committees are again called for an hour's business. This call passes in regular order from day to day. The called committees can present for consideration any of their bills on the calendar. If it passes in an hour, all right. If not it goes over until the next day. Failing then of passage within an hour, it goes over to unfinished business. Its committee cannot again call it up, or indeed call up any other bill until every other committee has had its turn. Filibustering for the two hours sends it to "kingdom come." It was thus that General Weaver scotched Wilkins's bili giving national banks an increase of 10 per cent.

The only remaining chance rests with the chairman of a committee reporting a bill. When the calendar is loaded with measures from his committee, he asks that a day or two be set apart for their consideration. The request goes to the committee on rules—a committee which holds the key to all legislation. Its five members are a sort of close corporation of lawmakers. All are old members, and all are members of privileged committees. They can upset the car of legislation at any time. With their consent, and that of the House, the chairman gets his time allowance. He then selects the measure for consideration. If any determined opposition is shown, he withdraws it and substitutes another bill. His allotted time may then be exhausted without the passage of any bill whatever. It was thus that the eight-hour relief and the prison-contract labor bills were

Escaping all these dangers and passing the House, a bill is only fairly on the road to success. It has to encounter similar troubles in the Senate. In committee, and in the Senate chamber, every Senator has a back at it. It may be so battered out of shape that its sponsor will fail to recognize it, and it may afterwards be lost in a committee of conference. Shrewd members take advantage of the conference committee. They accept seeming defeat as a stepping-stone to the advancement of the passage of a measure. Thus, if an amendment is proposed which aims to kill the bill, it may be gracefully accepted. The other house may refuse to accept it, thus throwing the bill into a conference committee. If this committee agrees to it without the obnoxious amendment, the report is bert G. Burdett, of La Porte; and Charles and | privileged, and can hold the floor until a vote is

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taken, whereas, pending the amendment, the

Even if a bill passes the Senate in its original form, a blunder in the joint committee on enrolled bills may prove fatal. When it finally reaches the President it is not safe. Enemies may lurk in the White Honse, ready to deal it a deadly blow. With the President's signature it has no sure lease of life. Its usefulness may be impaired by the action of an over-zealous official, and the Supreme Court may find it unconstitutional.

bill could have been side-tracked by a dozen

A Prevalent Fiend.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Such of the editors of this land as who do any praying at all must be supplicating the Throne of Grace just now for relief from the to-decidea-bet fiend. We have tried to ignore him; we have thrown him into the waste-basket; we have levied upon his postage stamp inclosed for a reply-but to no purpose. He still comes in every mail, and a menth after the election is, if anything, a little fresher than he was when the returns began to come in. Hard praying is, perhaps, the only thing that will knock him out.

Can Secretary Halford Tell?

Why is it that such men of the earnest, innocent, honest type, the Horace Greeleys and the Spinners, write such beastly hands?

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